

WASHINGTON, DC --- Today, the House passed the Republican version of the Airline Security bill, which fails to expand the role of federal law enforcement and ensure the safety of airline passengers and workers. Despite its passage, it still may be several weeks before an airline security bill can be worked out and passed by both Chambers given the stark differences between the House and Senate versions.

Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) issued the following statement on the Aviation Security Bill that passed in the U.S. House of Representatives this evening:

"I am saddened that we missed an opportunity to work in a truly bi-partisan fashion. Had we passed the Oberstar-Ganske bi-partisan substitute version of the bill, identical to what the Senate passed 100-0 three weeks ago, we could have had an aviation security bill signed by the President tomorrow. This bill is a step backward in terms of providing the training, professionalism, and uniform protection that the American public deserves to make our skies safer."

For more information on Congressman Blumenauer's work on transportation issues, visit his web site at <http://www.house.gov/blumenauer/>.